

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Equipment Acquisition – University of Iowa
Date: December 4, 2003

Recommended Action:

Approve the purchase of an 800 MHz Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) System totaling \$2,750,000 for the University of Iowa.

Executive Summary:

Equipment Request The Board's Policy Manual requires Board approval for the purchase of equipment costing more than \$1,000,000.

The University of Iowa requests approval to purchase an 800 MHz (megahertz) Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) System for the Carver College of Medicine to replace the current 500 MHz, 12-year-old system.

The replacement is critical to provide the means for the College to investigate the structure and function of proteins, nucleic acids and other biological molecules.

Replacement equipment was selected through a competitive bidding process as required by Iowa Code and University procedures.

Carver College of Medicine will provide the funds for the purchase.

Background and Analysis:

Equipment Location The equipment will be installed in the new Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver Biomedical Research Building, which is currently under construction.

Purpose The system represents a key component of the College of Medicine's Structural Biology Initiative. This important addition to the College's research infrastructure will provide the means to investigate the structure and function of proteins, nucleic acids, and other biological molecules. Most of these studies are now not possible using available campus equipment. The 800 MHz NMR system will also aid in recruiting faculty to the College.

Current System	The current 500 MHz system is 12 years old and despite regular upgrades, it is inadequate in sensitivity and resolution for the current studies.
Bid Process	The replacement equipment was selected through a competitive proposal process open to all equipment manufacturers and vendors in accordance with applicable University and State of Iowa procurement procedures and processes. The Purchasing Department received two proposals.
Award	Subject to Board approval, the award will be made to Bruker Instruments, Inc.


Jean A. Friedrich

Approved: 
Gregory S. Nichols